

# THE LINK



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR PARK WEST FAMILIES

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### October:

- 6: No school for afternoon classes (Teacher Conference)
- 7: No school for morning classes (Teacher Conference)
- 10: No School — Columbus Day
- 11: PW Board Meeting, 7:30pm  
Mind the Gap, 1st installment due
- 13: JK2 Potluck
- 14: 3PM & JK Conferences in PM
- 16: NPN Fair, 10am, Grossinger City Toyota (1561 N. Fremont St.)
- 19: 4AM-3 Potluck
- 20: 3PM & JK Conferences in PM, no classes in afternoon  
2AM Potluck
- 24: 3AM Potluck
- 26: Grade School Fair, 9:30-11:00 am, at Park West  
4AM-2 Potluck
- 27: 3PM & JK Conferences in PM  
No classes in afternoon  
Wine Tasting Event, 6:30pm

### November:

- 1: JK3 Potluck
- 2: Conversations with Jane, 7pm
- 4: 3AM & 4AM Conferences in PM
- 9: 3PM Potluck
- 10: 3AM & 4AM Conferences in AM  
No classes in morning
- 11: No School — Veteran's Day
- 15: PW Board Meeting, 7:30pm
- 17: 3AM & 4AM Conferences in AM  
No classes in morning
- 18: Prospective Parent Open House, 2:30pm
- 23-25: No School, Thanksgiving Break

### December:

- 1: Wine and Gala Donations Due
- 2: 2AM Conferences in PM
- 7: PW Book Fair, Barnes & Noble
- 9: 2AM Conferences in AM (No Class for 2AM only)
- 26-January 6: No School, Winter Break

### January:

- 9: Classes Resume

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome, welcome, welcome! It's been wonderful to have the children come for their visits, staggered starts, and now the first days of school. We have a terrific mix of returning students, returning families, and new students and their families. Thank you, parents, for coming to the parent orientation and our Fall General Meeting. I hope you feel you received helpful information and welcomed into the Park West community. These next weeks will be busy for all of us, adjusting to new schedules, and for some of you, being at school for separation.

Over the next couple of months, the class pot lucks will be held. Your room parent will be sending you an invitation with the details for your classroom's pot luck. I try to attend all of the pot luck dinners, so I hope to see you for a glass of wine and a chat. We will be seeing a lot of each other this school year and I so look forward to getting to know all of you, and your children. I am always happy to meet with parents about our program here at Park West, future school options, or your child's development. Parents look to me as a resource, so don't be shy about reaching out. Many adventures await us.

Best,

Jane

P.S. Maybe I'll see some of you at the NPN School Fair on Oct. 16th. Come visit us at the Park West Coop table. And please tell your friends looking for a nursery school, to visit our table as well. As you know, parents are our best ambassadors.

## THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE DIAPER DRIVE A SUCCESS!

Last May, Park West Coop families came together to donate and sponsor our Diaper Drive, and what a success it was! We were able to collect **2,027** diapers to distribute to Chicago families in need. Thanks to everyone who donated, and a huge thank you to Judith Feldman for organizing the drive!



### NEW ARRIVALS!

Please join us in welcoming:

Isabella Clark, new sister of  
**Mercedes Clark** in **JK2!**

Margaret Eskew, new sister of  
**Annie Eskew** in **4AM-2!**

Arwen Hickey, new sister of  
**Freya Hickey** in **2AM!**

Simon Ashe Hopmayer, new brother of  
**Annie Hopmayer** in **2AM!**

Joseph Francis McNeil, new brother of  
**Sophia McNeil** in **JK3!**

Caroline Grace Roulston, new sister of  
**Elle Roulston** in **4AM-3!**

Kian Samir Shah, new brother of  
**Aadi Shah** in **3PM!**

Congratulations to all the growing families!

## POTLUCK TIME!

Potluck season is upon us! Below are the classes potluck dates. Please take note!

**2AM:**  
Thursday, 10/20

**4AM-2:**  
Wednesday, 10/26

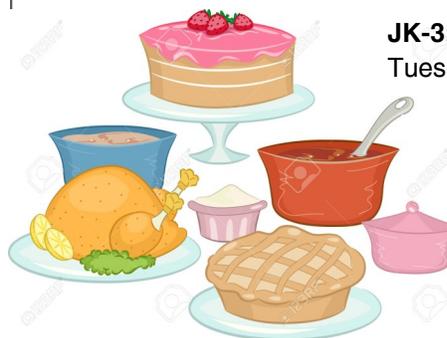
**3AM:**  
Monday, 10/24

**4AM-3:**  
Wednesday, 10/19

**3PM:**  
Wednesday, 11/9

**JK-2:**  
Thursday, 10/13

**JK-3:**  
Tuesday, 11/1



### NEW CLASSROOM EMAILS!

Need to contact your teachers? Please see the new Park West email addresses below!

**2AM:**  
firstfloorteam+2am@parkwestcoop.org

**3AM:**  
firstfloorteam+3am@parkwestcoop.org

**3PM:**  
firstfloorteam+3pm@parkwestcoop.org

**4AM-2:**  
secondfloorteam+4am@parkwestcoop.org

**4AM-3:**  
thirdfloorteam+4am@parkwestcoop.org

**JK-2:**  
secondfloorteam+jk@parkwestcoop.org

**JK-3:**  
thirdfloorteam+jk@parkwestcoop.org

**To report absences, illnesses, or any urgent matter, please email the office:**  
parkwest@parkwestcoop.org

### PW GONE SOCIAL!



Park West has gone social and we'd love to have all of our families, existing & new, follow us online! You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram all under @parkwestcoop. "Like" us to receive important school information, details for special events, as well as a look at what's going on around PW! Help us spread the word about our amazing community!

## THE GRADE SCHOOL FAIR

The Education Committee is excited to tell you about our upcoming first event, The Grade School Fair! The Grade School Fair will be held on Wednesday, October 26th from 9:30-11:00 am here at Park West (St. Pauls' Social Hall).

Each year approximately 40 Chicago area public and private schools send representatives to discuss their school and programs with our Park West families. Many schools will also be represented by Park West parent alumni who will be there to discuss the process they went through deciding, applying and becoming part of their new

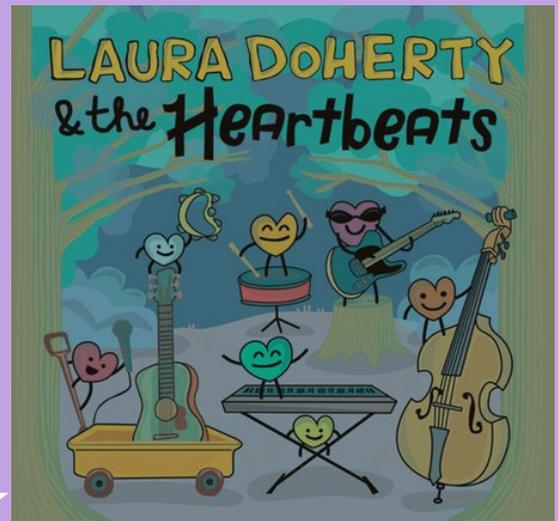
school community. These amazing school resources will be able to provide you with promotional materials and answer questions that you might have about their school.

This is a wonderful and unique opportunity for our Park West families. We hope that you can join us and let us help you get a head start on that often confusing and somewhat stressful school decision process. The Grade School Fair is here to help! Hope to see you there and please feel free to invite friends.

## LAURA DOHERTY COMING TO PARK WEST!

**November 5, 2016**

Put on your dancing shoes because Park West is hosting Laura Doherty and the Heartbeats this November! Bring your little ones to enjoy one of Chicago's most popular and rockin' bands! Everyone is welcome, so tell your neighbors and friends. To purchase tickets, look for Eventbrite email coming soon. Can't wait to see everyone there!



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Park West Families,

Welcome (or welcome back) to Park West! This time of year is always bittersweet. Seeing your little munchkin(s) headed off to school tugs at the heartstrings; but then you remember you get one to three hours to yourself, and it eases the anxiety. (Or maybe you've just lightened your childcare load from three to two, but hey, it's something!)

As you can probably tell, I try not to take myself, or life, too seriously. As a Type A personality, that's how I make it through. However, what I do take seriously is Park West Cooperative Nursery School and my position as president. Park West has played an invaluable role in my life, shaping not only my children's behaviors and personalities, but also me as a parent. The staff here has given me tools to better comprehend and respond to my children's wants and needs with patience and understanding. Whether it's your first or fourth year here,

you'll continually discover that it's not only your child that's receiving a first-rate education through Park West.

Jane, the teachers, staff and Board are working to make sure we stay at the forefront of early childhood education and Chicago's preschool offerings. If you ever have an idea or concern you'd like to share, don't hesitate to contact me at [president@parkwestcoop.org](mailto:president@parkwestcoop.org) or on my cell. Some of my best friends have come through my older child's time here at Park West, so I'm very much looking forward to meeting all of you and forming new bonds. Cheers to what's sure to be a fantastic school year!

All my best,  
Cassidy Neveux  
[president@parkwestcoop.org](mailto:president@parkwestcoop.org)  
312-622-4557

## **PARK WEST EMERGENCY TEXT ALERTS:**

Thank you to the many families who have already signed up to receive our text alerts. Park West will use these texts to alert our families of weather closures and any emergencies or changes related to the school or classrooms. There is still time to enroll in this program if you wish. Please email [housecommittee@parkwestcoop.org](mailto:housecommittee@parkwestcoop.org) and we will send you an email to get you started. Also, please email if you'd like any additional family members or caretakers to receive these texts. Please provide their names and cell numbers in the email.

## **UPDATED SMOKING POLICY AS PART OF THE CHILD CARE ACT, SECTION 5.5**

Pursuant to recent amendments to the Illinois Child Care Act, Park West has adopted a formal no smoking policy to prevent the exposure of children, families and staff to second-hand smoke. No person is permitted to smoke (or to allow or encourage anyone else to smoke) tobacco products on Park West grounds, even when children are not present. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact the Director.

## **LAW CONCERNING PESTS AND PESTICIDES**

In 2003, the Illinois General Assembly passed laws requiring licensed day care centers to implement safer pest management practices to protect our children from unnecessary exposure to both pests and pesticides. This law requires Park West to notify parents/guardians at least two business days prior to any pesticide applications or create a registry of parents who wish to be notified. The term "pesticide" includes insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides and fungicides. Excluded from the notification requirement are antimicrobial agents (such as disinfectants, sanitizers or deodorizers), insecticide baits and rodenticide baits.

To comply with safer practices, St. Paul's Church has agreed to apply pesticides only on Friday afternoons after students and staff have left for the weekend. Park West also has chosen to establish a registry of families who wish to be notified of pesticide applications. To be included in this registry, please contact Nada Riley in our school office or send a note to school with your child.

## **LAW CONCERNING LAWN CARE APPLICATION**

New for this year, the owner or operator of a daycare center must either (i) maintain a registry of parents and guardians of children in his or her care who have registered to receive written notification before the application of pesticide to daycare center grounds and notify persons on that registry before applying pesticides or having pesticide applied to daycare center grounds or (ii) provide written notice to all parents and guardians of children in his or her care before applying pesticide or having pesticide applied to daycare center grounds.

To be included in this registry, please contact Nada Riley in our school office or send a note to school with your child.

# Save the Date

Park West Cooperative Nursery School  
Wine Tasting Night

Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>  
6:30-8:30pm

Punt & Plume  
1324 W. Wrightwood Ave



tea

## fundraise with SCHOOL DAYS

△△△△▽△△△▽△△△

October 12-19

Shop [TeaSchoolDays.com](http://TeaSchoolDays.com) at 15% off + Free Shipping  
& we get 15% of all sales.